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Message Text

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45
ACTION SCCT-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

USSS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 PC-01

A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 OC-05 CCO-00 SCS-03 DHA-02 SCA-01

/073 W
---------- 051195
O R 292225Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9211
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 3949

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT PGOV ES PINS PORS
SUBJ: VIOLENT DEATHS ON BOTH SIDES

1. A SERIES OF VIOLENT DEATHS OCCURRED DURING THE EVENING HOURS OF SEPTEMBER 26. FIRST A BAND OF PRESUMED LEFT-WING TERRORISTS ATTACKED A NATIONAL GUARD OUTPOST N THE SMALL TOWN OF EL CARMEN, DEPARTMENT OF LA UNION, WITH A DEATH TOLL OF FOUR GOVERNMENT AGENTS AND TWO OF THE ASSAILANTS. FOUR HOURS LATER, A LEFTWING DEPUTY IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WAS MACHINE GUNNED TO DEATH IN DOWNTON SAN SALVADOR BY TWO CARLOADS OF ASSASSINS.

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2. ATTACK ON POLICE POST - AT APPROXIMATELY SEVEN P.M. ON

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SEPTEMBER 26, A GROUP OF UPWARDS OF TWELVE ATTACKERS ENTERED THE SMALL NATIONAL GUARD POST IN EL CARMEN, AND ACCORDING TO THE GOES COMMUNIQUE, OPENED FIRE WITH MACHINE GUNS. TWO AGENTS, A CORPORAL, AND THE SERGEANT COMMANDER WERE KILLED IN THE GUN-FIRE. THE TERRORISTS FLED IN A STOLEN VEHICLE, APPARENTLY HAD AN ACCIDENT, WHICH LEFT TWO OF THEIR NUMBER DEAD (ONE NEWSPAPER REPORT SAYS THAT ONE TERRORIST DIED IN THE VEHICLE, THE SECOND UNDER "MYSTERIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES" IN THE HOSPITAL). NEITHER OF THE DEAD ASSAILANTS HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED. THE POLICE HAVE DISPLAYED WHAT THEY CLAIN IS MATERIAL FOUND IN THE TRUCK ABANDONED BY THE FLEEING TERRORISTS, QUANTITIES OF ARMS AND A FLAG OF THE ERP (PEOPLES' REVOLUTIONARY ARMY).

3. DEPUTY'S ASSASSINATION - SOME FOUR HOURS LATER, RAFAEL AGUINADA CARRANZA, DEPUTY FOR SAN SALVADOR IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, WAS DRIVING A BORROWED CAR IN DOWNTOWN SAN SALVADOR. HIS CAR WAS FORCED TO A STOP BY AT LEAST TWO OTHER VEHICLES, THE OCCUPANTS OF WHICH GOT OUT WITH MACHINE GUNS. AQUINADA RECEIVED A DOZEN BULLETS AND DIED INSTANTLY. THE ASSAILANTS FLED. ALL WITNESSES ARE SAID TO CLAIM THAT THEY ARE UNABLE TO SHED ANY LIGHT ON WHAT TOOK PLACE

4. AGUINADA WAS A WELL KNOWN FIGURE IN OPPOSITION POLITICAL

CIRCLES. AS A DEPUTY, HE REPRESENTED THE UDN (NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC UNION PARTY), THE SMALL COMMUNIST-DOMINATED LEFTWING PARY IN COALITION WITH THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC AND MNR PARTIES. HE WAS ALSO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF FUSS, THE COMMUNIST-DOMINATED LABOR FEDERATION. IN EARLY 1975, HE WAS ONE OF A GROUP OF OPPOSITION DEPUTIES WHO VISITED CUBA AS A GUEST OF THE GOC. IN MAY 1973, AGUINADA WAS "ARRESTED" BY UNKNOWN PERSONS, WHO WERE LATER IDENTIFIED AS NATIONAL POLICE AGENTS, AND SENT INTO EXILE IN NICARAGUA. HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY (PCES), LAST HOLDING THE POST OF DIRECTOR OF PROPAGANDA, AND HAS A BROTHER, MARIO ROLANDO AGUINADA CARRANZA, IN THE PCES.

5. THE CAR AGUINADA WAS DRIVING AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH BELONGED TO HIS UDN COLLEAGUE, DAGOBERTO GUTIERREZ, WHO IS EVEN BETTER KNOWN FOR HIS LEFTIST OPPOSITION TO THE GOVERNMENT THAN CONFIDENTIAL

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AGUINADA.

6. PRESIDENT MOLINA, IN A SEPTEMBER 27 SPEECH IN SAN MIGUEL, ISSUED A STRONG CONDEMNATION OF VIOLENCE AS A POLTICIAL WEAPON. WHILE THE MAJORITY OF HIS WORDS CASTIGATED THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTACK ON THE POLICE POST, HE ALSO DEPLORED THOSE WHO PERPETRATED THE MURDER OF THE UDN DEPUTY.

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7. COMMENT - WHILE THERE IS AS YET NO EVIDENCE THAT THE TWO INCIDENTS ARE LINKED, THE POSSIBLE CONNECTION HAS BEEN MADE BY MANY OBSERVERS. DURING THE HIGH POLITICAL TENSION OF LATE JUNE (THE DE SOLA KIDNAPPING) TO EARLY AUGUST (THE STUDENT MARCH OF JULY 30), SEVERAL REPORTS REACHED THE EMBASSY THAT GOVERNMENT SECURITY SERVICES WERE PREPARING LISTS OF LEFTISTS, TARGETS FOR INSTANTANEOUS RETALIATION SHOULD MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY FORCES OR THEIR FAMILES BE THE VICTIMS OF TERRORIST ACTS. AGUINADA, AND THE OWNER OF THE CAR HE WAS DRIVING, WOULD CERTAINLY HAVE BEEN ON ANY SUCH LISTS. IF, IN FACT, THE DEPUTY WAS KILLED BY SECURITY AGENTS, WE CAN EXPECT OTHER VIOLENT DEATHS SINCE THE ORIGINAL CLAIM WAS THE THE SECURITY FORCES WERE PREPARED TO ELIMINATE ANYWHERE FROM FIVE TO TEN LEFTISTS FOR EVERY ONE GOVERNMENT AGENT.
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